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11 April 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Summer Intern Program for Graduate Students in China Area Studies: A Progress Report

## Background

Last Fall it occurred to me that one way to attract promising young China talent to the Agency would be through a summer intern program similar to that run by STAT [redacted] for NPIC. I discussed with him the idea of "piggybacking" six or eight China Study Interns on his NPIC program. We agreed that for such a program to be worthwhile the interns would have to be carefully picked, mature, and responsible individuals; they should be graduate students; they should be given a meaningful and productive experience, and that would require that they be given full clearances and work on the intelligence production line as full, though junior, members of the staff. While I opened the idea for discussion at the Directorate STAT level, [redacted] began staffing a proposal incorporating these ideas through Office of Personnel channels to the Executive Director-Comptroller. This memorandum was dated 2 December. On 13 December, I submitted a supplemental memorandum to the Executive Director-Comptroller, through the DDI, which described the minimum educational qualifications for the interns, the clearances they should have, and the duties they would perform. The Deputy Director for Support requested that the security aspects of the program be further considered. This was done on 6 January by a committee chaired by the Director, Office of STAT Personnel, [redacted] representatives of the Office of Security, and the undersigned as a representative of the DDI. On 31 January, the proposal was approved by the Director with the proviso that the Director would review each case personally before a final commitment to the intern was given.

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1. Once in business, [redacted] STAT and I readily agreed on a joint responsibility for recruiting and processing the China Intern applicants. Our goal is to fill three positions in the Geography Division of OBI, three in ORR, and two in OCI. [redacted] STAT has maintained contact with the Office of Recruitment and has followed up on the processing of applicants for OBI, and I have taken on the ORR and OCI business. In early February, I prepared a one-sheet description of the program (Attachment A) for the Office of Recruitment. On 13 February, I mailed letters to 10 personal friends in the academic community describing the program and asking their cooperation in steering potential candidates in our direction (Attachment B). The next day, 14 February, the RAMPARTS story broke.

2. Nevertheless, the response has been encouraging. Although one should never count one's interns before they are piped aboard, the outlook at present appears to be as follows: Geography Division, OBI, has one in the bag and one in process; ORR has one almost in the bag--there is some delay for a medical panel hearing--and none in process; OCI has three in process and a likelihood of two or three other good candidates for its two positions. It is possible that we may end up with more OCI type interns than we have appropriate earmarked positions; if this is the case, I recommend that we attempt to place the extra ones. This would require a special approval by the Executive Director-Comptroller.

3. In all, fifteen well qualified and serious candidates came forward. (Attachment C is a statistical review.) I had a preliminary interview with each of them, either in person or by telephone. Three have been brought to Washington for further interviews, testing, and processing; three others are scheduled for early Washington visits. Several of those who have dropped from contention have done so because of potential conflict with Fulbright-Hays or Ford Foundation grants. Others have dropped for various reasons--one had a Chinese wife who had not been a citizen for the required five years; another decided that his scheduled early June wedding created too many inconveniences, but asked to be considered for the following year; another we scrubbed because, upon closer investigation, he did not appear to be a top candidate. Four of



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those who have dropped from the program for one reason or another have indicated serious interest in the Agency as a career at a later stage and asked to be recontacted.

4. Handling this small program seems to have taken an inordinate amount of time in staff work, follow through, telephone calls and, by now 40 or 50 carefully drafted letters. However, I feel strongly that such high-level interns should be given special treatment, and those that do come aboard be given every opportunity for a worthwhile and challenging experience. Otherwise, the potential benefits--which are substantial--of the program will be lost. At present, I believe, the program offers reasonable prospects of success.

STAT [redacted]

Coordinator for Academic Relations
DDI, China Task Force

Attachments:
A/S

Distribution:
Orig & 1 - Addressee w/atts.
1 - DDI/Admin. w/atts.
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